kas, keeping in view the merit of each proposal, the inter-se-priorities and availability of funds. Yatri Niwases and Yatrikas 'are facilities for lower and middle class tourist | pilgrims.

Opening of duty free shops

1029. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have opened certain duty free shops at certain places in the country;

(b) if so, what are the names of these places, district-wise, as on 30th April, 19&0;

(c) what items are being sold at these shops;

(d) whether Government propose to set up such more shops in local markets of each district during the current year and the next year to facilitate common people to make use of these shops; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c) ITDC, a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of the Ministry of Tourism, is presently operating Duty Free Shops at five international airports at the following places: —

1. Delhi
2. Bombay
3. Calcutta
4. Madras
5. Trivandrum

In addition, a Tax Free Shop is also operated by ITDC at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi to cater to the needs of diplomatic community and hotels against import licence.

A wide range of items are sold to international in-eoming|out going passengers against payment of foreign exchange at these Duty Free Shops. These include liquor, cigarettes and tobacco, electronic goods, home appliances, perfumery, watches, toys etc.

(d) and (e) Since under the exis-, ting law, the duty free shops are meant for sale of goods to international passengers against payment of foreign, exchange, the question of opening of these shops for common people in district towns does not arise.

Slight-seeing tours

1030. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be please^ to state:

(a) whether the Minstry of Tourism have been conducting sight-seeing tours for tourists at different places in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of these tours and the charges fixed for each of such tours;

(c) whether these tours are also arranged for lower class tourists;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and the charge fixed for each of such tours;

(e) whether Government propose to attract more- and more lower cass tourists; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a 1 - Ministry of - Tourism does not conduct any sight-seeing tours for tourists at different places in any part of the country.

(b) to (f) Dpes not arise.